

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5952
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 1469

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINR, CY, US
SUBJECT: DAVIES TRIAL

SUMMARY: THIS IS THE SEVENTH OF OUR CHRONOLOGICAL REPORTS ON TRIAL HIGHLIGHTS NOT OTHERWISE REPORTED. IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF MAY 26 AND 27 LEFTIS' STATEMENT WAS ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE. IN OUR ASSESSMENT IT WILL AID THE PROSECUTION. SGT. KATSIKIDES' TESTIMONY STRENGTHENED THE CREDIBILITY OF STYLIANOU. EVIDENCE WAS INTRODUCED THAT LEFTIS HAD COMMANDED AN INDEPENDENT UNIT IN ACTIONS AGAINST TURKS AND USED AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON AS HIS PERSONAL FIREARM. EMBASSY RECEPTIONIST PROVIDED ACCOUNT OF HER ACTIONS WHEN AMBASSADOR AND MISS VARNAVA WERE SHOT IN HER PRESENCE. EXPERT WITNESSES FURTHER DEFINED AREA FROM WHICH FATAL SHOTS WERE FIRED. END SUMMARY.

1. PROCEEDINGS OF MAY 26. THE COURT RULED SEFTIS' STATEMENT WOULD BE ADMITTED INTO EVIDENCE. SGT. KATSIKIDES READ THE STATEMENT. PERTINENT POINTS INCLUDED:

A. AT 1300 HOURS ON AUG. 19 LEFTIS WAS DIRECTED BY COL. AZINAS TO GO TO THE EMBASSY AND HELP DISPERSE A
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RIOT. (NOTE: OTHER WITNESSES PLACE LEFTIS AT THE SCENE AROUND 1230 HOURS. ALSO, COL. AZINAS TESTIFIED HE NEVER GAVE LEFTIS ANY INSTRUCTIONS ON AUG. 19.)

B. LEFTIS WENT TO THE EMBASSY WEARING A CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORM AND CARRYING AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON ISSUED HIM UNDER ORDERS OF COL. AZINAS. (NOTE: THE ADMISSION ABOUT THE UNIFORM AND THE AUTOMATIC WEAPON CONFIRMS STYLIANOU'S

TESTIMONY. COL. AZINAS HAS DENIED AUTHORIZING AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON FOR LEFTIS.)

C. LEFTIS DID NOT SEE KTIMATIAS AT THE SCENE, DID NOT WASH HIS FACE AT STYLIANOU'S FIRE ENGINE AND DID NOT ENTER THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION. (NOTE: THIS EVIDENCE IS IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH THAT OF STYLIANOU.)

2. SGT. KATSIKIDES WAS QUESTIONED ABOUT THE STATEMENTS HE HAD TAKEN FROM STELIOS STYLIANOU ON JULY 20, 1976 AND ON AUGUST 4, 1976. HE SAID STYLIANOU WAS AT FIRST RELUCTANT TO GIVE ANY STATEMENT, INDICATING HE HAD NO CONFIDENCE IN CYPOL'S ACCEPTANCE OF A COMPLETE AND FACTUAL ACCOUNT OF THE INCIDENTS. HE REPEATED TO KATSIKIDES THE STORY OF THE SUPERFICIAL STATEMENT REQUESTED OF HIM IN AUGUST 1974 TO "ENABLE CYPOL TO CLOSE THE DAVIES INVESTIGATION QUICKLY." KATSIKIDES THEN EXPLAINED THE INCOMPLETE STATEMENT OF JULY 20, 1976 AND THE SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF AUGUST 4, 1976.

3. POLICE SERGEANT ELIAS ORPHANOU TESTIFIED HE HAD FORMALLY CHARGED LEFTIS IN FEB. 9, 1977, AFTER READING HIM HIS RIGHTS. LEFTIS RESPONDED, "I DO NOT ADMIT; WHATEVER I HAVE TO SAY I WILL SAY IN COURT." LEFTIS REFUSED TO SIGN THE STATEMENT OF CHARGES.

4. POLICE INSPECTOR GEORGE SAVVIDES TESTIFIED HE SAW KTIMATIAS AT THE CENTRAL PRISON ON FEB. 9, 1977, READ HIM HIS RIGHTS AND FORMALLY CHARGED HIM. KTIMATIAS SIGNED THE STATEMENT OF CHARGES AND SAID, "I DO NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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ADMIT. WHATEVER I HAVE TO SAY I WILL SAY IN COURT."

5. MAJOR HANNIDES, NATIONAL GUARD MILITARY POLICE, TESTIFIED HE HAD BEEN ORDERED BY COL. AZINAS TO STAND BY TO FURNISH A DETAIL OF SOLDIERS TO HELP DISPERSE THE RIOT. SUBSEQUENTLY HE DISPATCHED A FORCE OF ABOUT 35 MEN, HEADED BY SECOND LT. LEFKIOS GALATIS, TO THE EMBASSY. HANNIDES SAID HE KNEW LEFTIS, HE HAD NOT SEEN LEFTIS AT CAMP THAT DAY, AND LEFTIS WAS NOT IN THE 35-MAN DETAIL. HANNIDES RECALLED THAT LEFTIS HAD BEEN IN CHARGE OF AN INDEPENDENT PLATOON AT DHIKOMO BETWEEN THE FIRST AND SECOND TURKISH INVASIONS. THIS INDEPENDENT UNIT DID NOT TAKE ORDERS FROM ANY ORGANIZED UNIT. LEFTIS USED A MARSIP AUTOMATIC WEAPON AND MAY HAVE EXCHANGED IT FOR A KALASHNIKOV PRIOR TO AUGUST 19, ACCORDING TO HANNIDES.

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NICOSIA 1469

6. STELLA CHARALAMBIDOU, FSLE, AMERICAN EMBASSY, TESTIFIED SHE HAD BEEN THE TELEPHONE OPERATOR AND RECEPTIONIST ON AUGUST 19. SHE HAD TALKED TO THE AMBASSADOR AROUND 12 NOON WHEN THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR WAS LEAVING THE EMBASSY. SHORTLY THEREAFTER THE RIOTING BEGAN, GLASS WAS BROKEN, VEHICLES WERE SET AFIRE AND THE MARINE SECURITY GUARDS DIRECTED HER TO GO TO THE FIRST FLOOR (EUROPEAN FIRST) CORRIDOR FOR SAFETY. SHE JOINED THE AMBASSADOR, EDWARDS, O'BRIEN, HARRIS EVANGELIDES AND MISS VARNAVA AT THE END OF THE CORRIDOR NEAR THE STEPS. THERE WERE NO MARINES ON THE FIRST FLOOR AT THAT TIME. AS SHE SAT ON THE STEPS WITH EVANGELIDES AND MISS VARNAVA, SHE SAW THE AMBASSADOR GRAB HIS CHEST, STUMBLE AND FALL. IT WAS ABOUT 1235 HOURS. END OF MAY 26 PROCEEDINGS.

7. PROCEEDINGS OF MAY 27. UNDER CROSS-EXAMINATION STELLA CHARALAMBIDOU ADVISED THAT AFTER THE AMBASSADOR HAD FALLEN THEY ALL TOOK COVER ON THE FLOOR. MISS VARNAVA BEGAN TO RISE TO GET SOMETHING (A STRETCHER) WHEN SHE WAS STRUCK AND FELL. THE WITNESS THEN FAINTED. SHE DID NOT HEAR SHOOTING WHEN THE AMBASSADOR WAS SHOT; IN FACT SHE HAD INITIALLY THOUGHT HE HAD FAINTED. SHE
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DID NOT HEAR THE SHOT THAT KILLED MISS VARNAVA. SHE
SAID NONE OF THE PERSONS ON THE FIRST FLOOR AT THAT

TIME WERE ARMED.

8. EURIPDES GEORGHIOU, SENIOR SURVEYOR, GOC LANDS AND SURVEYS DEPARTMENT, TESTIFIED HE HAD CONDUCTED TESTS ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE EMBASSY, USING A THEODOLITE TO LINE UP THE POINT WHERE THE AMBASSADOR WAS STRUCK WITH THE BULLET HOLES IN THE FRENCH DOORS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE. HE DETERMINED THE SHOTS HAD BEEN DIRECTED FROM AN AREA RANGING FROM JUST BELOW THE LEFT LOWER CORNER OF THE ONLY LARGE WINDOW OF THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION WHICH FACES THE EMBASSY, OR DOWNWARD FROM THAT POINT.

9. INSPECTOR ANDREAS CHRISTOPHIDES, FORENSIC SCIENCES LABORATORY, POLICE HEADQUARTERS, TESTIFIED HE VISITED THE EMBASSY ON AUGUST 20, 1974. HE DETERMINED THE FRENCH DOORS OF THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE HAD BEEN PENETRATED BY 12 BULLETS, SOME HITTING THE OPPOSITE WALL AND SOME GOING INTO THE CORRIDOR. HE MADE MANY PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE AREA. IN HIS EXPERT OPINION ONE BULLET WHICH STRUCK THE FLOOR OF THE AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE MUST HAVE COME FROM THE FOURTH, FIFTH OR SIXTH FLOOR OF THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION; THE BULLETS WHICH PENETRATED THE CORRIDOR MUST HAVE COME FROM THE AREA OF THE SECOND-FLOOR WINDOW IN THE STAIRWELL OF THE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION. END OF MAY 27 PROCEEDINGS.
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Message Attributes

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